

Mary Byers  
Remembered  
Page 4



Women's  
History  
Celebration  
Page 9



Commander's Corner.....	3
Al Gallotta remembered.....	5
Field Article.....	6
Wind Tower.....	7
TERC Contract.....	7
Nationwide permits.....	8
Health and Wellness.....	10
Grand Trunk Trail Groundbreaking.....	11



US Army Corps  
of Engineers  
New England District

Volume 38, No. 7

# Yankee Engineer

April 2002

## Corps signs PCA for Fox Point Hurricane Barrier

*Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Army for Civil Works, Dominic Izzo, joined Col. Brian E. Osterndorf, New England District Commander, and Providence, Rhode Island Mayor Vincent Cianci during the signing of a Project Cooperation Agreement (PCA) to repair the Fox Point Hurricane Barrier. The signing ceremony took place at the Providence City Hall April 8.*

"It's a pleasure to be here today representing the federal government, and specifically the Department of the Army and the Corps of Engineers, as we formalize a partnership with the city of Providence to rehabilitate this structure

that protects the city from storm damages," said Mr. Izzo as he handed the mayor a giant check to reimburse the city for eligible repairs they performed since 1998.

The Fox Point Hurricane Barrier is

located across the Providence River in Providence, R.I. The barrier provides protection to downtown Providence. The city operates and maintains the barrier. In the past 35 years, age has taken its toll on the project and major maintenance needs to be performed.

The barrier was originally constructed by the Corps of Engineers between 1961-1966 at a cost of \$15 million.

The Fox Point Hurricane Barrier consists of a 700-foot long concrete structure, 25 feet high, which contains a 214-foot long pumping station and three 40-foot by 40-foot tainter gates. The pumping station contains five 4,500 hp electric pumps capable of pumping 1,400 cubic feet per second (cfs) each for a total pumping capacity of 7,000 cfs.

Work to repair the Fox Point Hurricane Barrier is estimated to be completed at the end of 2003.

Major work that is scheduled to be done includes overhauling pump numbers three and five; repairing and/or replacing the tainter gate chains; repairing guide wheels on the cooling water canal gates; upgrading electrical compo-



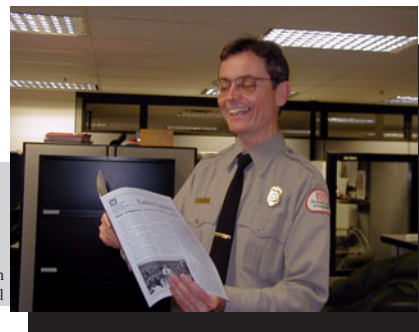
Photo by C.J. Allen

(from left) Congr. Langevin, Mayor Cianci and Mr. Izzo pose with the "check" for the Fox Point Hurricane Barrier project. The city of Providence operates the barrier.

Continued on page 11

# Yankee Voices

William Norman  
Cape Cod Canal



## Founders Day

Mark your calendars now for the New England District celebration of Founder's Day, Friday, June 21.

Many new activities are planned - new caterer, new games, music, entertainment, etc.

The committee is also planning a benefit walk the morning of Founders Day in Minuteman Park immediately following the awards ceremony, with donations going to charities for families of victims of the Sept. 11, 2001 attacks.

## Sympathy

...to **Maureen Murray**, Survey Section, on the passing of her father, April 8. Memorial donations may be made to the American Heart Assoc., 20 Speen St., Framingham, MA 01701.

## Welcome

**Gregory Billings**, Real Estate  
**Zakiyyah Francisco**, Regulatory  
**Walter Ohar**, Legal Office  
**Daniel Stenstream**, Eng/Plng

## Congratulations

...to **Heather Rausch**, Water Management Section, and her husband, David, on the birth of their child.

...to **John Perry, Jenny Tan, Townsend Barker, Judith Johnson, Scott Flanagan, Tom Marcotte, Jonathan Kullberg, and Rosemary Schmidt** of the Engineering/Planning Division, and **Sheila Bergeron** of the Military Project Management Branch who were selected as the WE Committee's Team of the Month for April 2002. Team members are recognized for assisting the Omaha District by providing technical support to the Navy for the design of a Resource Conservation and Recovery Act Criteria "C" landfill cap for the Jamaica Island Landfill at the Portsmouth Naval Shipyard in Kittery, Maine.

...to Park Ranger **Viola M. Bramel** of West Hill Dam and the Charles River Natural Valley Storage Area as the WE Committee's selection as Employee of the Month for April 2002. Ms. Bramel is recognized for providing First Aid and Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (CPR) training to permanent and seasonal park rangers, managers and other field personnel since arriving at the New England District in September 1991.

...to the following New England District family members who received the Boston Federal Executive Board Annual Support/Administrative Staff Awards:

**Jan Bacigalupo**  
**Julie Canney**  
**Marie Farese**  
**Carol Husselbee**  
**Stephen Kelley**  
**Karen Martel**  
**Andrea Pittman**  
**Claire Sullivan**  
**Angie Vanaria**

**Kathy Bucciarelli**  
**Tina Chaisson**  
**Rachel Fisher**  
**Barbara Ingersoll**  
**Lauren Levesque**  
**Ella Minincleri**  
**Susan Rodkey**  
**Rosalie Tekeyan**

The award recipients were treated to a lunch at the Boston Park Plaza Hotel on Friday, April 12 and presented with a plaque commemorating their achievement.

YANKEE ENGINEER is an authorized unofficial Army newspaper under provisions of AR 360-1 published monthly. Views and opinions expressed are not necessarily those of the Department of the Army. Contributions from readers are solicited, but publication depends on judgment of the editor. No payment will be made for contributions. Published by the Public Affairs Office, New England District, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, 696 Virginia Road, Concord MA 01742-2751, 978-318-8777. Printed by the offset method on recyclable paper by the Defense Printing Office in Boston, Mass. Circulation 1600. The YANKEE ENGINEER can be found on the World Wide Web at <http://www.nae.usace.army.mil/news/yankee.htm>

District Engineer .....Col. Brian E. Osterndorf  
Chief, Public Affairs .....Larry Rosenberg



Editor .....Ann Marie R. Harvie  
Media Relations Officer.....Timothy J. Dugan  
Public Affairs Specialist.....Sally M. Rigione

# Commander's Corner:

## Outreach is telling our story

by Col. Brian E. Osterndorf  
District Engineer



One of my periodic themes is encouraging members of the District to find ways to tell the story of the Corps of Engineers and all the good things we do to serve the citizens of New England. This is not all about growing our program; we wouldn't turn work down if offered, but there is more to outreach than marketing.

First, our citizens need to have confidence that their federal government is working in their best interests. Overall, I am very pleased with the reputation of the District. Those that know and work with us very much respect our abilities and our integrity. I am especially proud to be able to participate in the various ceremonies like groundbreakings, project initiations and ribbon cuttings where the work of the Corps is on display and is celebrated. But that doesn't mean that everyone that should know about us does, and sometimes, those that think they know us don't really have the right story. It is and always will be our job to be in the middle of the tough decisions, and with that will come a certain amount of heat; many that don't like the decisions will attack the agency. Sometimes, these attacks are hard to take, but our best response is to come right back into the public's view and continue to demonstrate that we are here to serve the best interests of all the citizens.

Second, there is a real need for role models and leadership. The ideals of unselfish service, professionalism and technical capability are alive and well in this District, and the public, sometimes skeptical and often jaded, would welcome examples of how government professionals answer the call to duty.

I am happy to report that there are numerous examples of successful outreach, and to let you know that many of your fellow District employees are hard at work carrying our message.

Laureen Borochaner, Crystal Gardner, Paula Kullberg and Maryellen Iorio spoke to women students at Bunker Hill Community College, along with a panel of other women professionals. Dianna Rider made the arrangements, and the feedback I got was that each did an outstanding job inspiring the students present. Laureen, Dianna, Jackie DiDomenico, Bob Russo and I, along with the able assistance of Brian Murphy and Mary Christopher, represented the District at the annual engineer recruiting fair in downtown Boston. The

students that visited our booth were genuinely interested in serving with the Corps, and that interest was heightened by the enthusiasm demonstrated by our crew. Not only did they represent the benefits of working as part of the premier engineering organization in the world, but impressed everyone with how much fun it was to do so.

Another great outreach was made to several small businesses during our annual small business seminar. This year, we invited women-owned and disabled-veteran owned small businesses for a course in Corps 101, and especially, how to do business with us. We have a harder time making sure that these type businesses are represented because we cannot specifically set aside work for them, and we wanted to make sure that they at least knew of opportunities and how to find out where work might be available. The feedback was outstanding and the companies greatly appreciated that the District senior leadership was on hand.

By the time you read this article, some more outreach events will have occurred. Tom Fredette is hosting a DAMOS

---

**'Overall, I am very pleased with the reputation of the District. Those that know and work with us very much respect our abilities and our integrity.'**

- Col. Brian E. Osterndorf

---

seminar in York, Maine to discuss how we can use the science of DAMOS to monitor dredged material disposal sites to ensure that habitat can reestablish itself after a short period of time. In the wake of last year's congressional staff seminar (that first Philadelphia District and then USACE HQ copied), we are following up with two regional sessions on dredging. It is vitally important that we talk over with the staffs of our congressional members the important issues we collectively face while we try to balance maintaining our harbors and ports while preserving sensitive habitat and aquatic environments. Shortly, our recreation areas will open up and we will start a new season of providing first-rate recreational experiences to the millions of visitors who frequent our lakes, the Cape Cod Canal and other Corps activities.

All of these outreach activities, and probably many more, are occurring on a frequent basis. One thing to note about the ones I cited is that they are not traditional marketing efforts. In fact, the audiences weren't really paying customers and we didn't undertake these initiatives to generate new business. But, they are the right things to do. I am proud to have a role and even more proud that so many of you are contributing directly in outreach, or indirectly by providing us outstanding stories to tell.



## District remembers retired District Counsel Mary Byers

The New England District was saddened to learn of the passing of District Counsel retiree Mary Byers, March 31.

Mary joined the New England District in February 1998 with a broad and varied background both in and out of the federal government. She retired in 2001.

During her brief time with the District, Mary made many contributions. In March 1999, Mary was featured in a personality profile of the Yankee Engineer. In that feature, she talked about her love of horses. She saw riding and breeding horses as a lifetime hobby.

"That kind of work keeps you young," she said. "I have a great deal of respect and love for them. They fill that other part of my life that isn't filled with humans."

Other activities that Mary enjoyed were rollerblading, tennis, golf, antiquing, traveling and reading.

Mary also penned an article about the Hatch Act in the August 2000 issue. During the April 2001 Women's History celebration, Mary shared the story of her mother, Louise Shields, who she described as a "mother, world traveler, visionary and proud American."

When she joined the Corps of Engineers as an attorney in 1987,

Mary had worked in the Baltimore District Office of Counsel, primarily in the procurement, regulatory and environmental areas.

From Baltimore, Mary headed to the Corps' headquarters in Washington in the Real Estate Directorate to serve in the Management and Disposal Branch. Soon after, new opportunities arose from the Office of the Chief Counsel where Mary first provided legal advice on a myriad of issues in the environmental arena working in the DERP Program.



*Mary Byers, retired District Counsel, passed away March 30.*

Mary also served in the procurement arena as the Manager of the Corps' Bid Protest Program. She also spent several years as Assistant Laboratory Counsel at the Corps' Construction Engineering Research Laboratories in Champaign, Illinois.

Before entering federal service, Mary worked for the Louisiana Department of Justice, as both a Law Clerk and a Contract Attorney, working in the natural resource and environmental areas of the law. She also served as the first woman Agriculture Inspector for the state of Louisiana Department of Agriculture.

In 1979, Mary graduated cum laude from the University of Delaware with a Bachelor of Science Degree in Agriculture. In 1985, she received a Juris Doctorate from the Southern University School of Law and was admitted to the Louisiana Bar in 1986.

Mary had extensive training in a variety of fields, including environmental law, government contract law, alternative dispute resolution, partnering, federal real estate law, claims, and fiscal law.

She is survived by her husband, Henry W. Byers and their two children, Katy and Hank.

## 2002 Distinguished Civilian Gallery criteria

The New England District will honor selected former employees by inducting them into our Distinguished Civilian Gallery. Photographs of members in the Distinguished Civilian Gallery are proudly displayed along the main corridor in Bldg. 2. The District traditionally recognizes these outstanding individuals at the annual Founders Day celebration. This year Founders Day will be held Friday, June 21.

District family members nominate a former employee for this prestigious legacy if the former employee satisfies the following criteria:

Thirty years of federal service (or

more), at least 20 of which were served with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. They must be retired for at least six months, but not more than five years, prior to March 1, 2002, or;

Employees who passed away prior to retirement must have achieved at least 20 years of service with the Corps and must have been deceased for at least six months before they may be considered for selection, or;

Any former employee upon waiver of the above criteria by the District Engineer when justified by compelling reason.

Additionally, the following standards

are established and referenced in District 672-1-1:

Accomplished duties in a manner clearly exceptional and preeminent among others performing similar duties, or;

Developed methods and procedures which produced extraordinary benefits for the Corps, or;

Contributed substantially to the reputation and honor of the Corps, or;

Performed loyally and faithfully throughout the period of service.

Distinguished Civilian Gallery inductees will be published in a future issue of the Yankee Engineer.

# In Memoriam:

Albert Gallotta remembered as an exceptional worker with integrity

***When he passed away March 24, Albert Gallotta, Engineering retiree and Distinguished Civilian Gallery member, was remembered as a quiet, professional man who got the job done. Mr. Gallotta retired from the Corps in New England in February 1995 and had 53 years of federal service, 51 of which were with the Corps of Engineers.***

Current employees remembered Mr. Gallotta fondly. "I always respected Al Gallotta," said Bob Essex. "He had a lot of patience and taught me a lot about being a draftsman."

Frank Turner remembered Mr. Gallotta as a hard worker. "Whenever you asked Al for something, he always said 'we will do our best,'" he said. "And he always did."

Mr. Gallotta began his distinguished career with the Corps in New England as a junior draftsman in 1942.

As a draftsman, he worked on many of the flood control and local protection projects located throughout the New England area. He also worked on many of the military construction projects.

According to the nomination that earned Mr. Gallotta a space in the Distinguished Civilian Gallery, "His exceptional work ethic and organizational abilities, combined with a personal dedication established a high standard of excellence within the New England Division drafting group which serves to this day as a yardstick for a new generation of engineers, technicians and draftsmen."

"Al was a professional and a gentleman," said Joe Lampara.

Mr. Gallotta also served in the U.S. Navy during World War II and was awarded the World War II Victory

said. "Sure enough, I did. It was kind of strange and funny that his prediction came true soon after he passed away."



***Engineering retiree and Distinguished Civilian Gallery Member Albert Gallotta passed away March 24.***

Medal, the American Area Medal and the European, African, Middle East Medal.

Bob Essex recalled a prediction that Mr. Gallotta made of him that came true. "Years ago, Al said to me, when you turn 40, you're going to need glasses," he

On the occasion of his 50th anniversary with the Corps in New England, Mr. Gallotta received a letter from Maj. Gen. C.E. Edgar III, the Acting Chief of Engineers at the time. "Through your caring and inspiring leadership, many team members in the drafting functional area have grown both personally and professionally," said the letter. "Your career is exemplified by the way you lived the values of integrity, quality, professionalism, and esprit de corps on a daily basis. Your example has been a point of light for many to follow and emulate."

This would not be the only letter of praise Mr. Gallotta would receive for his dedicated service to the Corps. Lt. Gen. Arthur E. Williams, Chief of Engineers at the time of Mr. Gallotta's retirement, thanked him for his tireless commitment to the Corps.

"You have played a quiet but essential role in the many successes of the New England Division over the last 53 years and I am pleased to be able to recognize your achievements," he wrote.

"People are the Corps' and the success of the Corps as an organization is based on people such as yourself and those you have mentored during your distinguished career."

Mr. Gallotta was inducted into the Distinguished Civilian Gallery on June 21, 1996.



# From the field: How water flows east

Photo and story by Delia Vogel  
Barre Falls Dam

***The Massachusetts Water Resource Authority (MWRA) has a water diversion facility approximately four miles downstream of Barre Falls Dam. The Roger E. Lonergan Facility was constructed in the 1930s in conjunction with the Quabbin Reservoir to divert runoff from 98 square miles of the Ware River Watershed to Quabbin.***

The facility has a series of underground aqueducts that run west to the Quabbin Reservoir and east to the Wachusett Reservoir to supply drinking water to 2.5 million Massachusetts residents. When MWRA wants to divert water, they open the valves to the underground aqueducts and send the water through.

The MRWA still uses 1930s technology (years ahead of its time) for the diversion process, which is entirely gravity fed. Removing the stop logs and opening the valves is a time consuming process that is made more difficult because the original equipment from the 1930s is still used. To look at the equipment, you would think it is brand new. When compared with a like modern day facility with a series of electric

pumps, the MRWA is an economical energy saver.

Historically, the Reservoir Regulation Team in Concord initiates requests for diversion to provide flood protection to downstream communities. Two or three times a year on average, Barre Falls Dam coordinates with the MWRA to regulate river flows to divert runoff during periods of heavy rains or flood events.

The Barre Falls Dam and Reservoir Regulation Teams partnering with the MWRA work diligently and employ several strategies to divert water to prevent downstream flooding and to provide quality drinking water. This year the Superintendent of Quabbin Reservoir initiated diversion because of the low water levels at the reservoirs. The

MWRA is in a drought alert status. In addition to the 46 communities these two reservoirs serve, Worcester is presently drawing water via the Quabbin Aqueduct, and Leominster plans to in the very near future. Both cities desperately need the water to replenish their drought-ridden reservoirs.

Barre Falls Dam's role this year has been to restrict flows on weekends so there is enough water on Monday morning to send coordinated controlled releases downstream to the MWRA for diversion to the Quabbin Reservoir. Water can only be diverted when flows at the MWRA facility exceed 85 million gallons a day (MGD) and between October 16th and June 14th of each year.

When Barre Falls Dam gets the call to open the gates to release water, it takes three hours for the water to reach the MWRA diversion facility. Impounded water stored from the weekend in excess of the winter pool is enough to divert water for approximately 24 hours. During the first three weeks of March, 188.8 million gallons of water were diverted from the MWRA to Quabbin Reservoir. The MWRA plans to divert as much water as possible from the Ware River Watershed this season.

The water diverted this spring will undergo a natural purification process in the Quabbin Reservoir and, through a natural gravity process, will reach Boston's drinking water supply in two to four years.



***The MWRA Spillway. If water is diverted, it goes into the facility (much like how water is stored in our gatehouse); if not, it goes over the spillway into the Ware River.***

## District listens to comments on Wind Tower application

The New England District traveled to Cape Cod to listen to comments and concerns over an application for a single data gathering tower during a public hearing held on April 11. The public hearing was held for the purpose of gathering comments on the permitting of the structure including whether the Corps should permit it and under what circumstances.

The hearing, held at the Barnstable Town Hall, began at 5:50 p.m. All members of the public were invited to attend. Over 120 people attended the meeting with 62 giving testimony.

Col. Brian E. Osterndorf, District Engineer and hearing officer, heard comments both for and against the project.



Photo by Mark McInerney

*Citizens crowd into Barnstable Town Hall to give their opinion about the proposed data tower.*

"Those that were in favor of the tower were from the north side of Cape Cod or from areas outside of Cape Cod," said resident Gerry White.

"Chill out and listen to the facts!" urged local resident Russ Hayden who favored the project.

Cape Wind's permit application seeks permission to install and maintain a pile-supported scientific measuring tower extending approximately 197 feet in the air above the mean lower low water elevation in the ocean waters of Nantucket Sound as well as an associated measurement device imbedded in the sea floor.

The application, submitted by Cape Wind Associates, LCC, is for a Corps of Engineers permit under the authority of Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act for the installation and operation of this scientific tower in federal waters off the coast of Massachusetts on Horseshoe Shoals in Nantucket Sound. The data tower would provide needed scientific data, including meteorological and oceanographic data related to the larger wind farm project that is being separately evaluated under a federal Environmental Impact Statement as well as a Commonwealth of Massachusetts Environmental Impact Report.

## Corps awards 10-year, \$100 million Total Environmental Restoration Contract to Environmental Chemical Corp.

by Timothy Dugan  
Public Affairs

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, New England District awarded on March 29 a 10-year, \$100 million Total Environmental Restoration Contract to Environmental Chemical Corporation, of Burlingame, Calif.

"This Indefinite Delivery/Indefinite Quantity Total Environmental Restoration Contract is for remediation of various hazardous waste sites within the Corps of Engineers' North Atlantic Division," said William Scully, the Corp's New England District Deputy District Engineer for Project Management.

The North Atlantic Division has five Corps districts covering the states of Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, Connecticut, Vermont, Maine, New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Maryland, Virginia, Delaware and West Virginia, and also has a sixth district in Germany.

"This contract requires the contractor to furnish and transport all plant, labor, materials and equipment to perform

all work necessary to complete multiple task orders simultaneously at confirmed or suspected hazardous and radioactive waste sites," Scully said.

This work includes, but is not limited to, site definition, studies, remedial investigations, feasibility studies, decision documents, designs, interim actions, remedial actions, short-term operation and maintenance and any other actions necessary for site restoration at hazardous and radioactive waste (HTRW) sites. "The Army Corps of Engineers will prepare the statement of work for each task order," Scully said.

The initial major piece of work earmarked for this contract is planned for environmental clean-up efforts of the Massachusetts Military Reservation (MMR) on Cape Cod, Mass.

"The significant aspect of this contract is that this was a small business set-aside," Scully said. "The Corps takes its small business incentive obligation seriously, and this is by far the largest small business contract the District has awarded."

For more information on New England District contracts go online to <http://www.nae.usace.army.mil/> and select "Advertised Solicitations."



# Corps suspends nationwide permits in six New England states, continues effective state programmatic general permit program

by Timothy Dugan  
Public Affairs

While nationally the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers is reissuing its Nationwide Permits (NWP), the Army Engineers in New England are suspending the NWPs in the six New England states and continuing the highly effective Programmatic General Permits program in New England.

The Corps' New England District recently obtained approval to set aside the reissued nationwides in the six New England states in order to avoid duplication and confusion. The Corps' District Engineer in New England suspended all Nationwide Permits (NWPs) in the six New England States effective March 29, 2002. The proposal to suspend the NWPs was published in a public notice on Aug. 14, 2001.

"The Corps six state general permits complement and enhance the comprehensive wetland protection programs throughout the New England region and are individually tailored to the needs of each state," said Christine Godfrey, chief of the Corps' New England District regulatory division. These state general permits allow applicants to do work for which a state permit has been issued using a process that reduces delays and paperwork for applicants while maintaining a high level of environmental protection.

"Working hand-in-hand with each state, we have been able to implement a permitting program for all six New England states that both protects aquatic ecosystems and works in concert with the state environmental authorities," Godfrey said. "Therefore, to avoid duplication and confusion, and to retain the program efficiencies, streamlining and simplification already achieved, we requested and obtained approval from our North Atlantic Division to set-aside the nationwide permits

in all six New England states."

Both the New England programmatic and the nationwide permits are general permits that authorize categories of activities which the Corps has determined will have minimal impacts on the aquatic environment, individually and cumulatively, when conducted in accordance with the permit conditions. The Corps will, however, continue to require an individual permit for any project, whether covered by a general permit or not, which it determines would have more than minimal environmental impact.

"The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers plays a key role in the protection of the Nation's aquatic environment through its regulatory program," Godfrey said. "Both the nationwide permit program and the state general permits are critical parts of this protection – allowing work in areas where the impact will be minimal and allowing our regulatory staff to concentrate on the more complex and critical cases."

The suspension of the NWPs will remain in effect for five years from the March 18, 2002 effective date of reissuance of the NWPs unless rescinded by the Corps' Division Engineer. Copies of the Nationwide Permit Regulations (33 CFR, Part 330) or of the Statement of Findings for this decision may be obtained by written request to Project Manager Roger L. Hogan, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, New England District, Regulatory Division, Policy Analysis and Technical Services Branch, 696 Virginia Road, Concord, MA 01742-2751.

For more information on the New England District programmatic general permits or the regulatory/permitting program check the Corps website at <http://www.nae.usace.army.mil/> and select the Regulatory/Permitting heading. For more information about the Corps' regulatory program nationally check the Corps headquarters Washington D.C. website at <http://www.usace.army.mil/>.



## Looking to the future

*Col. Brian E. Osterndorf, District Engineer, answers a student's question during Engineer's Week Career Night held in Boston March 26. Employment opportunities within the Corps of Engineers were displayed during Career Night.*

*In addition, the District also participated in the Engineer's Week luncheon and awards ceremony.*





*Renee Heywood and Robert Maxwell perform at the celebration.*



*Ms. Yeager discusses the extraordinary life of Clara Barton.*

## Women's History celebrated at New England District

The Equal Employment Opportunity Office and the Federal Women's Program hosted a presentation to celebrate Women's History March 28 in the theatre.

The keynote speaker for the event was Shelley D. Yeager of the Barton Center.

The celebration began with the singing of the National Anthem performed by Renee Heywood and Robert Maxwell.

Col. Brian E. Osterndorf, District Engineer, said that Clara Barton not only made significant accomplishments in Women's History, but in American History with her establishment of the American Red Cross. "Women make up a great portion of our workforce," he said.

Ms. Yeager talked about Clara Barton's life and accomplishments. She was a teacher at the age of 15. Later, she opened a public school, but when she wasn't posted as the principal, she resigned.

The guest speaker said that Ms. Barton did a lot of work in the Civil War taking care of wounded soldiers. At the end of the war, she opened a missing soldier's office to help families

find out what happened to their loved ones.

In 1881, according to Ms. Yeager, Ms. Barton set up the Red Cross in America at the age of 60. She retired from her duties at the Red Cross at 83. Ms. Barton died at 104 years old and is buried in Oxford, Mass. "Clara Barton dedicated 90 years of her life to public service," said Ms. Yeager.

Speaker Kathy Woods followed Ms. Yeager's discussion of Clara Barton by talking about the Barton Center, the only camp that helps boys, girls, and families live with diabetes.

The audience was then treated to a video that highlighted the history of the American Red Cross and the services that they currently provide.

Following the video, Ms. Heywood and Mr. Maxwell performed some musical numbers for the attendees.

Col. Osterndorf and Barbara Blumeris, FWP Manager, presented each participant with Bunker Hill plaques in appreciation for their work during the celebration.

A reception with food donated by New England District employees followed the ceremony.



*Attendees enjoyed some light refreshments during the reception.*



*Col. Osterndorf presents Bunker Hill plaques to celebration participants in appreciation of their efforts.*

# Health and Wellness



## Early Enrollment Opens for Long-Term Care Insurance Program

by Sgt. 1st Class Kathleen T. Rhem, USA  
American Forces Press Service

A period of early enrollment into the new Federal Long-Term Care Insurance Program is now open. Federal personnel managers estimate as many as 20 million people are eligible to use this new benefit.

The federal Office of Personnel Management has contracted with John Hancock and MetLife insurance companies to provide this additional benefit for all federal employees, including military, and retirees.

The insurance program is designed to cover expenses associated with long-term care in a nursing home or in the beneficiary's home. Federal employees will be able to purchase the insurance for themselves, spouses, children and

parents. Federal retirees are entitled to enroll only themselves and their spouses, according to information on the program's Internet home page <http://www.opm.gov/insure/ltc>.

"The Federal Long Term Care Insurance Program is an option that can protect us emotionally, financially and socially at a time when family members face unimagined challenges," OPM Director Kay Coles James said March 25. "With access to long-term care insurance, we can act responsibly by planning well in advance for future care costs, giving us more time to focus our love and attention on what's really important -- family."

The early enrollment period began March 25 and runs until May 15. An initial six-month-long open enrollment season begins July 1. Officials stressed the early enrollment period is designed to accommodate people who are familiar with long-term care insurance and know what coverage they wish to purchase.

Those who still have questions should wait until the open season. An information campaign under way now will help educate people about the benefit by the open enrollment period, officials said.

Applicants may be required to answer health-related questions, provide medical records or be interviewed personally to be eligible for the insurance.

During early enrollment, pre-packaged policies can be purchased for three- or five-year periods, with daily benefits of \$100 or \$150. Individuals wishing greater flexibility can buy policies with daily benefits from \$50 to \$300. Additional plan options, including an unlimited benefit, will be available during

the regular open enrollment, according to an OPM news release.

For individuals between ages 18 and 30, premiums are \$8.40 per month for a policy that offers daily benefit of \$100 over three years and

---

**For individuals between ages 18 and 30, premiums are \$8.40 per month for a policy that offers daily benefit of \$100 over three years and after a 90-day waiting period; the same policy with inflation protection starts at \$32 a month.**

---

after a 90-day waiting period; the same policy with inflation protection starts at \$32 a month. After age 30, premiums will vary based on age, amount and length of coverage, the waiting period before benefits kick in and other factors, the release said.

Long-term care is not medical care but rather is designed to help people with chronic conditions to perform daily life functions, such as getting out of bed, dressing, eating and going to the bathroom. Care can be received in at home, a hospital, nursing home, assisted living facility, adult day care center or hospice.

Experts caution that since long-term care is not medical care, it isn't covered by many medical insurance plans, including Medicare and TRICARE.

For full details, including premiums, packages, benefits, rules and how to enroll, visit the OPM Long-Term Care Insurance Web site at <http://www.opm.gov/insure/ltc/>.



# Ceremony held for donated bridge:

## Towns of Sturbridge and Southbridge to be permanently connected

The New England District and the Grand Trunk Trail Blazers, Inc., held a joint groundbreaking ceremony April 10 for the pedestrian trail bridge that will be installed over the Quinebaug River.

Grand Trunk Trail Blazers donated the 85-foot bridge, worth \$50,000. The bridge is located in Sturbridge, Mass., and will permanently connect the towns of Southbridge and Sturbridge via the Grand Trunk Trail. The Grand Trunk Trail was designated as a National Recreation Trail in 2001.

"This is an example of how the government should operate with its stakeholders, creating a synergy that is much more effective than any single effort," said Col. Brian E. Osterndorf, District Engineer in a written statement. "We are well on our way to the goal to construct a multi-use trail on this railbed for making federal and

town property more accessible for recreational use."

Duallanes Welding and Fabrication Services of Southbridge, Mass., a contractor selected by the Grand Trunk Trail Blazers will put the bridge in place. "The contractor will fabricate the H-style trussed galvanized steel bridge into four sections that will be connected and installed at the former bridge crossing," said Park Ranger Thomas Chamberland. "The Corps is having the existing bridge abutments rebuilt by local contractors."

The original bridge was destroyed in the 1955 flood, according to Tom, and the crossing became part of the flood storage area for Westville Lake on the Quinebaug River. "The crossing was picked because of its location to the abandoned Grand Trunk railroad crossing, which was slightly downstream of

the new bridge," said Tom.

Work is scheduled to be completed this summer.

"This is a great opportunity for a diverse partnership to work together and produce a wonderful benefit for the American people," Col. Osterndorf's statement read. "I'm gratified that the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers could be a partner in this worthwhile recreational project."

Park Manager Keith Beecher served as Master of Ceremonies. Speakers at the groundbreaking ceremony included Basin Manager Robert Hanacek who read Col. Osterndorf's statement to attendees; Stephen Brewer, State Senator; Mark Carron, State Representative; Ed Calcutt, President, Grand Trunk Trail Blazers; Michael Coughlin, Chairman, Quinebaug and Shetucket River Valley District Commission and Town Manager, Southbridge; James Malloy, Town Administrator, Sturbridge; Carol Childress, President, Opacum Land Trust, Inc.; Charlene Cutler, Executive Director, Quinebaug-Shetucket Heritage Corridor, Inc.; John Desmond, Massachusetts EOE, Team Leader - French-Quinebaug Watershed; Charles Tracy, National Park Service, Rivers and Trails Program; Robert Chartier, Tri-Community Chamber of Commerce; and Tracie Hebert Boyd, Hebert Candies, Sturbridge, trail partner, representing Jeannie Hebert.

Other District employees who attended the ceremony included Bob Hanacek, Merl Bassett, Glenna Vitello, and Mark McNerney.



Photo by Mark McNerney

Basin Manager Robert Hanacek (left) joins local officials in breaking ground for the new bridge that will connect Southbridge and Sturbridge, Mass.

# Corps signs PCA for Fox Point Hurricane Barrier

*Continued from page 1*

nents of the pump station; painting the tainter gates; and developing a maintenance management system. Work that is already under way includes repairing and/or replacing and painting emergency stop gates. Overhauling pump numbers

two and four; repairing the pump dewatering chamber; and repairing the Allens Avenue Street gate have already been accomplished.

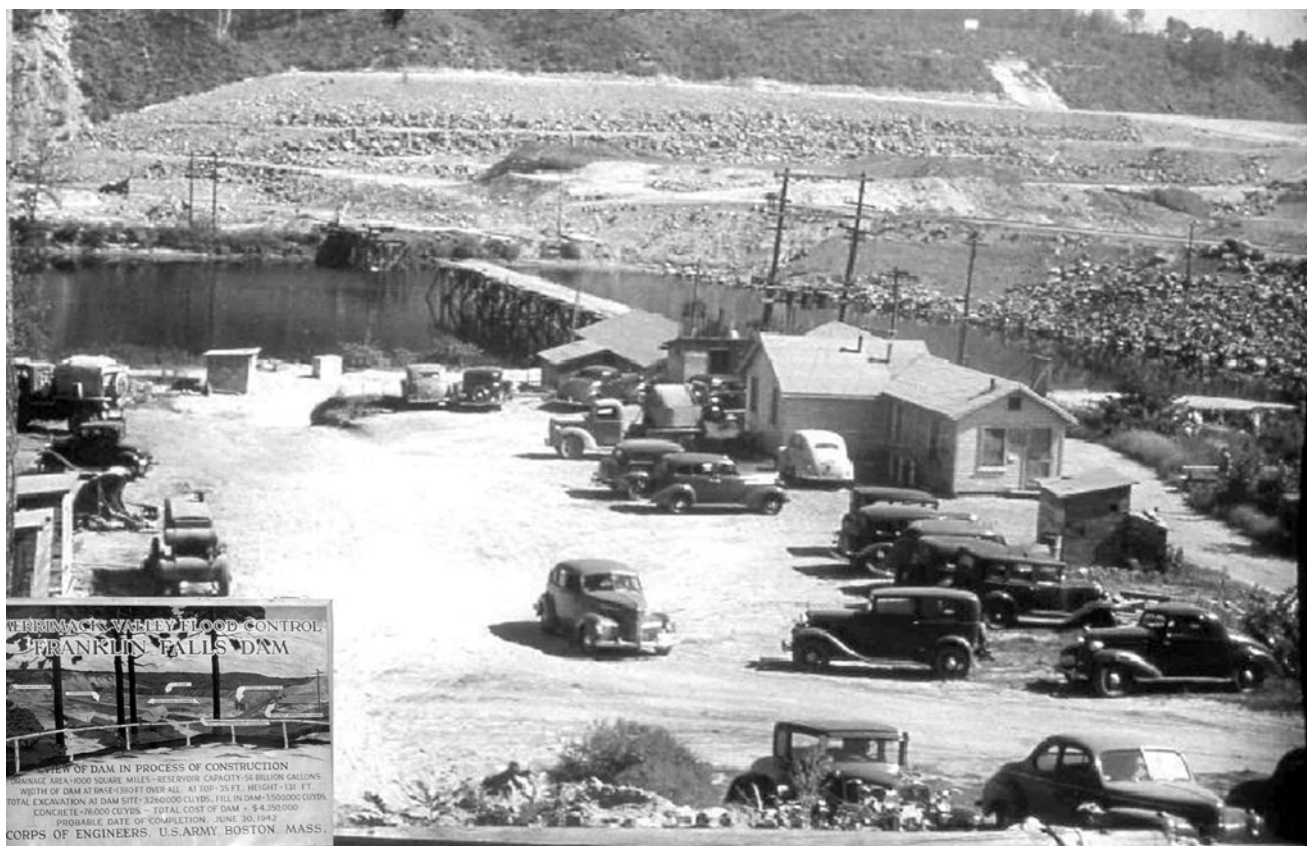
After the signing ceremony, Tom Rosato, Corps Project Manager, and City Director of Public Works, Fred

Ihenacho, answered questions on the project.

Congr. Patrick Kennedy and Congr. James Langevin both participated in the ceremony. Bob Byrne, Programs, and Tim Dugan, Public Affairs, accompanied Col. Osterndorf to the signing.



# Dredging up the past . . .



*(Inset) The sign posted at the construction site of the Franklin Falls Dam (photo) in New Hampshire gives details of what the public can expect the dam to look like in these circa 1940 photos. The photos were taken by William F. Mahan, Sr., father of Logistics Chief, Bill Mahan.*

Public Affairs Office  
New England District  
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers  
696 Virginia Road  
Concord, MA 01742-2751  
Meter Code 40

Presorted Standard  
U.S. Postage  
Paid  
Concord, MA  
Permit No. 494